



**NATIONAL
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KENTUCKY WEEKLY CROP & WEATHER REPORT



In Cooperation with:
Univ. of Ky - Agr'l Weather Center
U.S. Dept. of Commerce - NOAA
Kentucky Department of Agriculture
Cooperative Extension Service

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5-08

AGRICULTURAL NEWS: Above normal temperatures and below normal rainfall prevailed across the Commonwealth this past week. Temperatures for the week averaged 64 degrees across the State which was 5 degrees above normal. Total precipitation for the week was 0.29 inches statewide, which was 0.64 inches below normal. **Topsoil moisture** was rated as 5 percent short, 79 percent adequate, and 16 percent surplus. **Subsoil moisture** was rated 3 percent short, 80 percent adequate, and 17 percent surplus. There were 5.5 days suitable for fieldwork. The primary farming activities for the week were planting corn, seeding tobacco, applying fertilizer, spraying weeds, plowing, marketing cattle, and working on farm equipment. In some areas soil saturation continues.

TOBACCO: As of Sunday April 27, 43 percent of tobacco plants were less than 2 inches in height, 37 percent were 2 to 4 inches tall, and 20 percent were taller than 4 inches.

ROW CROPS: Corn planting progress continued to be behind last year and the five-year average. As of Sunday April 27, 31 percent of the intended corn acreage had been planted compared to 54 percent for last year and 64 percent for the five-year average. Last week 11 percent of the intended corn acreage had been planted. Corn emergence was reported at 4 percent, below last year's 18 percent and the five year average of 30 percent. The condition of the corn crop was rated 3 percent poor, 22 percent fair, 64 percent good, and 11 percent excellent. Farmers were slowly planting soybeans, with 2 percent planted as of Sunday which was the same as the previous year and 4 percent for the five-year average. Producers indicate that nitrogen fertilizer supplies in their area were 95 percent of normal.

SMALL GRAINS: Seven percent of the winter wheat crop had headed, well behind last year's 16 percent and the five year-average of 20 percent.

Winter wheat condition was rated 5 percent poor, 22 percent fair, 53 percent good, and 20 percent excellent.

OTHER CROPS AND PASTURE: Hay crops were rated 3 percent very poor, 11 percent poor, 28 percent fair, 48 percent good, and 10 percent excellent. Farmers expect the first date of alfalfa cutting to be around May 9th. Only a few reports of alfalfa weevil have been received. As of April 27, pasture condition was 5 percent very poor, 12 percent poor, 38 percent fair, 38 percent good, and 7 percent excellent.

CROP PROGRESS for week ending 04/27/08

Crop Stage	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg
Percent				
Corn Planted	31	11	54	64
Corn Emerged	4	0	18	30
Wheat Headed	7	1	16	20
Soybeans Planted	2	0	2	4
Burley Tobacco Set	0	NA	1	1
Dark Tobacco Set	0	NA	NA	NA

SOIL MOISTURE for week ending 04/27/08

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Percent				
Topsoil	0	5	79	16
Subsoil	0	3	80	17

CROP CONDITIONS for week ending 04/27/08

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Ex
Percent					
Corn Emerged	0	3	22	64	11
Wheat	0	5	22	53	20
Pasture	5	12	38	38	7
Hay Crops	3	11	28	48	10

KENTUCKY WEATHER SUMMARY, APRIL 21 - 27, 2008:

Above Normal Temperatures and Below Normal Rainfall.

The Bluegrass State experienced a warm and relatively dry week as high pressure controlled the weather for most of the period. Decent drying conditions and below normal rainfall for the second straight week allowed field activities to progress across the state. Warmer temperatures were finally being felt as last week was only the second week to experience above normal temperatures since mid-February. According to the latest Palmer Drought Index, the Commonwealth is becoming drier: West is in an **EXTREME MOIST SPELL**, Central and Bluegrass are in a **VERY MOIST SPELL**, and East is **NEAR NORMAL** hydrologic conditions.

Temperatures for the period averaged 64 degrees across the state which was 5 degrees above normal and 13 degrees above the previous week. High temperatures averaged from 77 in the West to 76 in the East. Departure from normal high temperatures ranged from 3 degrees above normal in the West to 7 degrees above normal in the East. Low temperatures averaged from 52 degrees in the West to 53 degrees in the East. Departure from normal low temperature ranged from 3 degrees above normal in the West to 5 degrees above normal in the East.

Rainfall for the period totaled 0.29 inches statewide which was 0.64 inches below normal. Precipitation totals by climate division, West 0.46 inches, Central 0.39 inches, Bluegrass 0.24 inches and East 0.13 inches, which was 0.50, 0.52, 0.69 and 0.80 inches respectively below normal. By station, precipitation totals ranged from a low of 0.00 inches at Cumberland Gap to a high of 0.53 inches at Cape Girardeau.

Tom Priddy

KENTUCKY TEMPERATURES AND RAINFALL FOR WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, APRIL 27, 7:00 P.M.

Weather Station	Rainfall			Deviation From		Air Temperature				Growing Degree Days		
	Last Week	Since April 1	Last Four Wks	Norm Since Apr. 1	Norm Last 4 Wks	High	Low	Wkly. Avg.	Dev. From Norm	Last Week	Since Apr. 1	Dev. Since Apr. 1
	(Inches)					(Degrees Fahrenheit)						
Bardstown	0.06	6.23	6.31	+2.74	+2.68	83	44	64.1	+4	104	274	+4
Berea	0.27	5.34	5.49	+1.51	+1.52	82	40	63.9	+5	105	279	+9
Bowling Green	0.30	5.18	5.32	+1.29	+1.27	84	44	64.4	+5	104	266	-4
Bristol	0.47	2.14	2.14	-0.83	-0.95	83	38	62.6	+4	97	284	+41
Buckhorn Lake	0.24	3.19	3.47	-0.18	-0.04	82	44	64.4	+6	104	258	+15
Cape Girardeau	0.53	7.87	7.93	+3.88	+3.78	83	45	63.9	+2	103	222	-48
Campbellsville	0.27	5.47	5.61	+1.20	+1.19	83	43	64.1	+4	103	273	+3
Covington	0.16	2.56	2.76	-0.82	-0.75	81	46	64.2	+6	101	228	+12
Cumberland Gap	0.00	3.90	3.91	+0.23	+0.07	82	44	64.2	+6	104	259	+16
Dix Dam	0.07	3.67	3.87	-0.13	-0.07	82	41	63.4	+5	100	249	-21
Evansville	0.29	5.92	6.02	+2.30	+2.25	84	44	64.0	+2	102	228	-15
Glasgow	0.19	7.08	7.37	+2.98	+3.11	84	44	65.1	+5	111	298	+82
Grayson	0.30	4.01	4.22	+0.74	+0.84	83	45	65.2	+7	110	262	+46
Hardinsburg	0.46	6.45	6.92	+2.57	+2.89	83	42	65.2	+5	111	277	+7
Henderson	0.39	5.54	6.58	+1.71	+2.59	84	45	64.9	+3	108	244	-26
Huntington	0.02	2.78	2.88	-0.46	-0.48	83	45	65.4	+7	111	279	+36
Jackson	0.02	3.19	3.40	-0.50	-0.43	82	44	66.1	+7	114	292	+49
Lexington	0.03	5.62	5.72	+2.13	+2.09	82	40	63.1	+5	99	229	+13
London	0.51	3.93	4.23	+0.40	+0.56	83	39	64.0	+5	106	281	+38
Louisville	0.30	6.18	6.32	+2.37	+2.36	84	46	65.8	+6	113	266	+23
Mayfield	0.00	5.14	5.58	+0.59	+0.86	82	44	64.4	+2	104	254	-43
Nashville	0.48	7.15	7.18	+3.22	+3.09	84	47	66.1	+6	113	284	-13
Nolin Lake	0.32	7.49	7.68	+3.41	+3.47	84	43	64.9	+5	108	272	+2
Paducah	0.35	7.88	7.89	+3.37	+3.22	86	45	64.6	+3	106	250	-20
Princeton	0.50	6.43	6.45	+2.11	+1.97	86	45	66.4	+4	116	300	+3
Quicksand	0.02	3.18	3.39	-0.51	-0.44	82	44	64.5	+6	104	260	+17
Somerset	0.48	5.32	5.75	+1.41	+1.69	83	42	63.0	+4	97	256	-14
Spindletop	0.03	5.42	5.51	+1.93	+1.88	84	46	63.3	+5	97	232	+16
Williamstown	0.17	3.84	3.89	+0.11	+0.00	81	46	63.9	+5	100	222	+6

The above information is provided by Tom Priddy, Kentucky Extension Agricultural Meteorologist, University of Kentucky Agr'l Weather Center (859)257-3000 ext 245. E-mail: priddy@uky.edu Additional Ky weather data available on Internet at: <http://www.wagwx.ca.uky.edu/>